

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 00558 250915Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 L-02 CPR-01 /021 W

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R 250840Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1164

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ACOM, UR, US

SUBJECT: CLASSIFIED POUCH EXCHANGES AT LENINGRAD AIRPORT

REF: LENINGRAD 529 AND PREVIOUS

1. AIRPORT CLASSIFIED POUCH EXCHANGE ON APRIL 24 AGAIN TOOK PLACE AMIDST CONFUSED ARRANGEMENTS. DESPITE MONTHS OF PROMISES, RECENTLY CONFIRMED BY DIPLOMATIC AGENCY, AIRPORT OFFICIALS DID NOT RPT NOT PROVIDE BAGGAGE CART TO TAKE COURIERS AND POUCHES TO AIRCRAFT. CONSEQUENTLY, CONGEN COURIERS WERE REQUIRED TO TAKE SAME AIRPORT BUS TO AIRCRAFT WHICH BROUGHT PASSENGERS TO TERMINAL, CAUSING DELAY IN MEETING THOSE COURIERS ON BOARD AIRCRAFT. PERHAPS IN RESPONSE TO VERY STRONG PROTEST TO AIRPORT OFFICIAL ON THE SPOT, A BAGGAGE CART WAS PRODUCED IN TIME TO CONVEY HEAVY INCOMING POUCHES AND CONGEN ESCORTS FROM AIRCRAFT TO CONGEN VEHICLE PARKED IN VEHICLE WAITING AREA OFF TARMAC.

2. FOR FIRST TIME, AIRPORT OFFICIALS REQUIRED CONGEN COURIERS TO PAY ON THE SPOT IN RUBLES FOR EXCESS OUTGOING WEIGHT (48 KILOS) NOT COVERED BY ON-BOARD COURIERS' ALLOWABLE PERSONAL BAGGAGE (40 KILOS). ALTHOUGH OLD SYSTEM OF ARRANGING PAYMENT THROUGH FINNAIR IN HELSINKI WAS PREFERABLE, WE CAN LIVE WITH THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT ON PAYMENT FOR EXCESS WEIGHT.

3. CONGEN IS SENDING DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO DIPLOMATIC AGENCY TODAY
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WHICH WILL ONCE AGAIN EXPRESS OUR DISSATISFACTION WITH NON-

FULFILLMENT OF PROMISED ARRANGEMENTS AND REQUEST EXPLANATION.
CONGEN WISHES REITERATE, HOWEVER, THAT OPEN BAGGAGE CART IS
STILL POOREST SORT OF ARRANGEMENT SINCE VAGARIES OF LENINGRAD
WEATHER CAN MAKE FOR VERY WET POUCH EXCHANGE.
NEUBERT

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 25 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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